PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Evangelical Lutheran Synod

OF

NEBRASKA,

HELD IN

NEBRASKA CITY, NEBRASKA, SEPTEMBER 7-11, 1898.

IN

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH,

REV. J. F. SPONSELLER, PASTOR.

PHILADELPHIA:
LUTHERAN PUBLICATION SOCIETY.
1898.

CALENDAR, 1898-1899.

PRESIDENT—REV. LUTHER P. LUDDEN, Lincoln, Neb.
SECRETARY—REV. ROBERT A. WHITE, 3119 O St., Lincoln, Neb.
STATISTICAL SECRETARY—REV. H. A. WOLFE, North Platte, Neb.
TREASURER—S. C. CROUNSE, 945 E St., Lincoln, Neb.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

ADVISORY BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS.

REV. LUTHER P. LUDDEN, REV. R. A. WHITE.

EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

REV. H. W. KUHNS, D. D., REV. W. C. McCOOL,
REV. L. GROH, REV. W. A. LIPE,
REV. R. W. PETREA.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

REV. LUTHER P. LUDDEN, REV. L. J. MOTSCHMAN, one year.
REV. R. A. WHITE, MR. G. A. CRANNELL, two years.
MR. JONATHAN REITZ, three years.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE.

REV. A. J. TURKLE, REV. L. M. KUHNS,
REV. R. A. WHITE, REV. W. DIEFFENBACH,
MR. W. E. KRAUSE.

COMMITTEE ON BENEFICENCE.

REV. J. F. CRESSLER, REV. S. M. LESHER,
REV. A. J. TURKLE.

COMMITTEE ON TRAVELING SECRETARY.

REV. A. J. TURKLE, REV. LUTHER P. LUDDEN,
REV. L. M. KUHNS, REV. W. A. LIPE,
REV. L. GROH, MR. ROBERT WEIDENSALL,
MR. J. F. WILHELMY, MR. S. P. MIKESELL,
MR. M. W. SWAIN.

SPEAKERS FOR NEXT YEAR.

Principal.	*Alternate.*
HOME MISSIONS.	
REV. G. H. ALBRIGHT,	REV. R. A. WHITE.
FOREIGN MISSIONS.	
REV. W. A. LIPE,	REV. J. F. CRESSLER.
CHURCH EXTENSION.	
REV. S. M. LESHER,	REV L. M. KUHNS.
EDUCATION.	
REV. J. A. CLUTZ, D. D.,	REV. W. F. EYSTER, D. D.
PREPARATORY SERVICE.	
REV. J. N. LENTZ,	REV. J. S. LEAMER.
COMMUNION.	
REV. J. F. SPONSELLER,	REV. E. BOLLMAN.
ORDINATION.	
REV. H. W. KUHNS, D. D.,	REV. L. J. MOTSCHMAN.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MEETING.
REV. A. J. TURKLE and REV. H. ZIMMERMAN.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Evangelical Lutheran Synod

OF

NEBRASKA,

HELD IN

First Lutheran Church, Nebraska City, Neb., September 7–11, 1898.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Nebraska met in the First Lutheran church, Nebraska City, Neb., Rev. J. F. Sponseller, *pastor loci*, on Wednesday evening, September 7, 1898.

The opening sermon was preached by Rev. Luther P. Ludden, President of Synod. Text, 1 Cor. i. 18. Theme, "The Preaching of the Cross the Power of God."

FIRST DAY—FIRST SESSION.

THURSDAY, 9 A. M.

One half hour was spent in devotional services. At the hour appointed, Synod was formally called to order by the President.

The roll was called. The names of the new members were ordered enrolled. The lay delegates were enrolled.

Roll.

Clerical.	Entered Ministry ...	Address.	Lay Delegates.
W. F. Eyster, D. D.	1841	Crete, Neb.	
J. Zimmerman	1856	Lincoln, Neb.	
S. L. Aughey, L.L. D., *a. e.*	1858	Lineville, Ala.	
C. A. Fritze.....	1858	Hastings, Neb.	
J. G. Groenmiller	1858	Rockport, Mo.	
H. W. Kuhns, D. D	1858	Omaha, Neb.	
W. A. Lipe	1860	Ponca, Neb.....	R. H. Pomeroy, *a. e.*
B. Sickel, *a. e*	1862	Marysville, Kan.	
H. Siekmann.....	1862	Hastings, Neb.	
L. Groh	1863	Omaha, Neb.	
J. H. Link, *a. e*	1865	Lincoln, Neb.	
J. A. Clutz, D. D., *a. e*....	1872	Atchison, Kan.	
J. F. Cressler	1872	Tekamah, Neb	M. D. Willert.
D. Z. Foulk, *a. e*	1873	York Springs, Pa.	
A. C. Gearhart, D. D	1873	David City, Neb.	
J. N. Augustine	1874	Grand Island, Neb.	
J. F. Sponseller	1874	Nebraska City, Neb.	C. G. Ellwanger.
R. W. Petrea.....	1876	Pawnee City, Neb. ..	John E. Weber.
Luther P. Ludden	1878	Lincoln, Neb.....	S. C. Crounse.
J. N. Zimmer..... ...	1878	Millard, Neb.	
G. H. Albright	1879	Lincoln, Neb	J. J. Stein (Roca).
A. T. Ludwig, *a*	1879	Allentown, Pa.	
W. Dieffenbach	1880	South Auburn, Neb..	Edward Snyder.
W. G. Gettle	1880	Steinauer, Neb.	
Luther M. Kuhns	1885	Omaha, Neb.....	Wm. Wilke, *a. e.*
W. C. McCool.....	1886	West Point, Neb....	W. E. Crouse, *a. e.*
A. J. Turkle.....	1886	Omaha, Neb.	O. P. Goodman, *a. e.*
R. A. White	1886	Lincoln, Neb.	
H. J. Hapeman, *a. e*.....	1888	Dakota City, Neb.	
E. Bollman	1889	Davenport, Neb.....	Henry Ritzen, *a. e.*
S. R. Elson	1889	Grand Island, Neb.	
E. Roglin, *a. e*.....	1890	Pleasant Valley, Neb.	
J. N. Lentz	1892	Rising City, Neb.	
G. H. Neefl, *a. e*	1892	Yutan, Neb.	C. W. Jamison.
Max F. Schulz.....	1892	Fremont, Neb.	
W. C. Eckhart, *a. e*.....	1892	Cozad, Neb.	
L. J. Motschman	1893	Beatrice, Neb.....	Chas. Neidhart.
Henry Zimmerman	1893	Stella, Neb.....	W. H. Hogrefe.
J. S. Leamer	1894	Wilber, Neb.	
S. M. Lesher	1894	Dakota City, Neb...	J. O. Fisher.
C. J. Ringer.....	1894	Hardy, Neb.	
H. A. Wolfe	1895	North Platte, Neb...	Henry Yost, *a. e.*
A. B. Leamer	1897	Benedict, Neb.....	F. L. Crownover, *a. e.*
.....	....	St. Mark's, Lincoln .	A. W. Easterday.

a. Absent. *a. e.* Absent and excused.

President's Report.

Beloved Brethren: Unto you may grace and peace abound through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whose tender mercies we are brought to another milestone in our Synodical life, and are again permitted to greet each other in our annual Synodical convention.

This has been a year marked by many activities. In the nation it has been war, short, sharp, decisive, but the battles have all been fought and the victories are won, and peace in all its sweetness is resting over all. In the business world there has been increased activity and continued prosperity. In the church at large and in our own particular Synod there has been a deepening of spiritual life and a taking up of the work of the Master with a commendable oneness. May our successes and failures during the Synodical year just closing urge us on to greater activity and to a more humble reliance on our Heavenly Father, giving us a firmer trust in His grace so that our zeal may be warmer and our consecration deeper.

Quietly and faithfully the members of Synod have striven to do their duty to God and the Church through this past year, and it is with no small degree of satisfaction that I have the privilege to-day of presenting so cheering a report upon the trust committed to me. Grateful to a kind Providence for His wise guidance, I will not detain you with any preliminary comments, but invite your attention at once to my official acts as they are herewith briefly summarized:

I. PASTORAL CHANGES.

November 1, 1897, the Rev. R. A. White closed his work at Benedict as regular pastor, and January 16th assumed pastoral charge of Trinity Church at Waverly.

November 1, 1897, the Rev. H. J. Hapeman relinquished his work as pastor of the Dakota county charge.

December 1, 1897, the Rev. J S. Leamer closed his labors as regular pastor at Grand Island and immediately assumed charge at Wilber.

January 16, 1898, the Rev. W. A. Lipe relinquished his work at West Point and assumed pastoral charge at Ponca.

In February the church papers reported that the Rev. G. H. Albright had become pastor of our church at Roca, but I have had no official notification from him.

March 1, 1898, the Rev. W. C. McCool severed his relation with the congregation at Stella and began his work immediately at West Point.

May 1, 1898, the Rev. Max F. Schulz closed his labors as supply for the German portion of the Yutan congregation.

May 16, 1898, the Rev. D. Z. Foulk closed his labors at North Platte

May 16, 1898, the Rev. H. A. Wolfe closed his labors as pastor at Rising City

and Surprise and immediately assumed charge of the congregation at North Platte.

During the month of May the Rev. E. E. Stauffer closed his labors as a supply for Zion's church, Pawnee county, and June 11th Mr. E. H. Combs began supply work for said church, continuing until the present date.

June 12, 1898, the Rev. H. J. Hapeman began the work of supply pastor at Wayne.

June 24, 1898, in accordance with our constitution I gave licentiate Rev. A. B. Leamer permission to accept the call and assume pastoral charge of the Benedict congregation.

About August 1, 1898, the Rev. A. C. Gearhart, D. D., moved to David City and changed his relation from supply to that of full pastoral care.

II. DISMISSALS.

February 8, 1898, a letter of dismissal was granted to the Rev. G. W. Dell, to the Hartwick Synod of New York.

III. RECEPTIONS.

March 6, 1898, the Rev. S. R. Elson assumed pastoral charge of our church at Grand Island. Subsequently he presented his letter of dismissal from the Iowa Synod.

April 1, 1898, the Rev. S. M. Lesher became pastor of the Dakota county charge, and has presented his letter of dismissal from the Kansas Synod.

April 1, 1898, the Rev. J. F. Sponseller accepted a call from Nebraska City and became their pastor. His letter of dismissal from the Kansas Synod is also herewith presented.

August 14, 1898, the Rev. J. N. Lentz accepted the call from Rising City and Surprise and became their pastor. His letter from the Kansas Synod is herewith also presented.

September 1, 1898 the Rev. Henry Zimmerman assumed pastoral care of the Stella charge, and presents his letter of dismissal from the Kansas Synod.

September 3, 1898, the Rev. G. H. Neeff, Ph. D., notified me that he had accepted the call extended to him by the Yutan charge, and assumed charge at the close of Synod. His letter from Rocky Mountain Synod is herewith presented.

IV. VACANCIES.

We have but one vacant congregation within the bounds of our Nebraska Synod—namely, St. Mark's of Lincoln. All the other congregations have either a regular pastor, stated supply, or a pastor to whom they have extended a call and the same has been accepted.

V. CHURCH DEDICATIONS.

October 3, 1897, I rededicated the Trinity Lutheran Church of Waverly. This church has been entirely remodeled in the interior and some changes made in its exterior, recarpeted, and all in all they have a comfortable house of worship. The funds needed have been entirely provided for, so that these repairs made no indebtedness upon the congregation.

August 7, 1898, the frame building at Steinauer was formally consecrated to the worship of the Triune God, the President of the Synod preaching the sermon and conducting the dedicatory services properly. The gathering of the offering was placed in the hands of the Rev. H. L. Yarger, D. D., who also preached a sermon for the evening services, and thus another complete temple of worship has been added to our list of churches, and that without incurring a dollar of indebtedness. The manner in which the pastor, Rev. R. W. Petrea, crowded this work forward is certainly worthy of commendation.

VI. INSTALLATIONS.

October 14, 1897, the North Platte Conference met at Tekamah and attended to the installation of the Rev. J. F. Cressler as pastor of the Burt county charge.

January 30, 1898, the Rev. H. W. Kuhns, D. D., and your President installed the Rev. R. A. White as pastor of the Trinity Lutheran church at Waverly.

July 10, 1898, I installed the Rev. J. F. Sponseller as pastor of the First Lutheran church at Nebraska City.

July 24, 1898, the Rev. W. C. McCool and the Rev. W. A. Lipe installed the Rev. S. M. Lesher pastor of the Dakota county charge.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS.

While none of our ministers have been removed by death, yet it has entered some of our homes.

April 25, 1898, death claimed as a shining mark the beloved wife of our brother Rev. H. W. Kuhns, D. D., and devoted mother of our Secretary, Rev. Luther M. Kuhns.

May 27, 1898, death visited the home of the Rev. A. C. Gearhart, D. D., and called his devoted wife from the trials and troubles of earth to enter upon the joys of immortal life.

I would recommend the appointing of an Obituary Committee to prepare a suitable memorial.

The committee appointed by Synod to visit Yutan, performed their work on the 20th of September, 1897, and presented their written report to your President; and I am glad to be able to say that the work of the committee was

entirely satisfactory, and that where discord and disruption seemed unavoidable a year ago, the congregation is now entirely united. In accordance with the recommendation of the committee, the Rev. Max F. Schulz continued his supply for the Germans until May 1, 1898, and the Rev. J. N. Zimmer has continued to supply the English portion of the congregation until this meeting of Synod. Carrying out the suggestions of the committee, the congregation are again united and harmonious, and have called the Rev. Geo. H. Neeff, Ph. D., who will assume pastoral care at the close of this session of Synod.

During the year, in connection with the President of the Kansas Synod, I have been trying to perfect arrangements by which Zion, of Pawnee, could again be supplied in connection with Sabetha congregation. September 5th, an official communication informed me that the congregations have perfected such arrangements, and have called the Rev. Jonas Freet, of Norcatur, Kan., as their pastor.

Your instructions have been complied with in reference to the Rev. W. G. Gettle (pages 21–22, Minutes of 1897). Rev. Gettle now asks to be received as a member of this body. We recommend his reception, and that the Secretary be instructed to enroll his name.

May 16, 1898, I received a very courteous invitation to the Sesqui Centennial celebration of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania and Adjacent States. I made appropriate response on behalf of the Synod, and forwarded a copy of the official communication to all members of Synod, and at the same time especially commissioned the Rev. A. T. Ludwig, of Allentown, Pa., member of our Synod, to specially represent us at said exercises. His report is among the letters and papers of Synod.

We note with pleasure the release from the mortgage indebtedness that has long rested upon the Kountze Memorial church of Omaha. On the 16th of June, the mortgage for twenty-five thousand dollars was released upon the payment in full of the loan. It has been a long and hard struggle that this church will never forget, and the entire church rejoices and extends congratulations that this congregation is permitted to have its magnificent church free from mortgage indebtedness.

July 28, 1898, St. Paul's church, of South Auburn, was struck by lightning, and, while the building was considerably shaken, no very serious damage was done.

CONCLUSION.

The future lies before us. The great questions and interests of Zion still press their claims upon us. God grant that this Nebraska Synod may never give an uncertain sound concerning the work of the Master! The work of the Synod is now before us. Let us not forget that it is God's work.

Again thanking you for the honors that you have shown me and commending your Christian forbearance, conscious of all the assistance you have ren-

dered me in the discharge of my duties and asking for the richest benedictions of heaven upon our work, I now return the trust to you from whom I received it. It will now be your duty to elect another President. I can wish nothing better for my successor than to ask that he receive from you the same kindly consideration and hearty co-operation and cordial good-will with which you have supported me in my work. May God richly bless us and prosper the churches which we represent, and "Now, unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God, our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Respectfully submitted, LUTHER P. LUDDEN.

The report was referred to Committee No. 1.

Secretary's Report.

Mr. President and Brethren: The Synod, at its last convention, instructed the Secretary to communicate its action on "Letter of Dismissal of West Pennsylvania Synod" to the Rev. W. S. Freas, D. D., President of the West Pennsylvania Synod, and to the Rev. W. G. Gettle. He was also directed to complete the file of the Minutes of Synod from 1889 to 1897 inclusive and to have these minutes bound for the use of Synod.

I respectfully report the performance of these duties.

LUTHER M. KUHNS, *Secretary.*

The report was adopted.

Treasurer's Report of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Nebraska.

To the President and Members of the Synod of Nebraska:

DEAR BRETHREN: At this the close of my second year as Treasurer, I beg to make the following report for the year ending August 31, 1898:

RECEIPTS.

On hand September 1, 1897		$30 78
Received for Home Missions—		
Regular	$253 99	
Children's	127 54	
Deficit Fund	1 00	
Cleveland	18 00	
		400 53

Received for Foreign Missions—			
Regular	$214 49		
Children's	83 94		
Emergency Fund	51 15		
Noah E. Yeiser	4 27		
Armenian Sufferers	12 00		
			365 85
Received for Church Extension—			
Regular	$218 81		
Children's	70 11		
			288 92
Received for General Synod			32 32
" " Nebraska Synod			154 61
" " Beneficiary Education			301 35
" " Board of Education			141 47
" " Midland College Library Fund			9 66
" " Orphans' Home at Loysville			93 70
" " Pastors' Fund			57 42
" " Deaconess Board			19 03
" " National Lutheran Home			23 69
Total			$1919 33

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid Treasurer of Home Mission Board		$400 77
" " Foreign Mission Board		365 85
" " Church Extension Board		288 92
" " Education Board		141 47
" " Orphans' Home		93 70
" " Pastors' Fund		57 42
" " General Synod		32 32
" " Deaconess Board		19 03
" " National Lutheran Home		23 69
" President of Midland College		9 66
" Beneficiaries		205 01
" First National Bank, Lincoln, exchange on four drafts to President Midland College		40

Paid out of Synodical Treasury—

Lutheran Publication Society	$137 08	
For Treasurer's bond	10 00	
" Envelopes and letter heads	5 75	
" Postage	5 20	
" Satchel for Treasurer	4 00	
" Two receipt books	2 25	
" Statistical reports	1 85	
" Copying books and ink	1 10	
" Exchange to First National Bank	10	
		$167 33
On hand September 1, 1898		113 76
Total as above		$1919 33

The balance on hand is in the following accounts—

Beneficiary Education	$95 94
Synodical Treasury	17 82
Total	$113 76

The 189 receipt stubs agree with cash account, less balance on hand, and show all the money received by me during the Synodical year, viz., $1888.55. The 65 numbered vouchers herewith show to whom the amounts have been paid. A few of the vouchers show money paid direct to our General Secretaries or Treasurers, but the proper credit has been given, while there will be no bank voucher to show for the amount paid out.

The tabulated exhibit herewith needs no explanation, but speaks for itself.

It is very gratifying to know that many of the congregations have raised their apportionment, some even exceeding it, and that many congregations have increased their benevolence, as the total amounts show. This, no doubt, is very encouraging to this Synodical body.

I again desire to express my sincere thanks to you for courtesies extended during the past year, and ask that one and all will bear with me in my infirmities or remissness of duty.

It is now with pleasure I hand to my successor, through your Auditing Committee, the accompanying books and papers.

Fraternally,

S. C. CROUNSE,

September 1, 1898. *Treasurer Ev. Lutheran Synod of Nebraska.*

The report was referred to the Auditing Committee.

Treasurer's Exhibit for the Synodical

		Home Missions.				Foreign Missions.				
		Regular.	Children's	Cleveland	Deficit Fund	Regular	Children's	N. E. Yeiser Fund	Armenian Sufferers	Emergency Fund
1	Auburn	$8 11				$3 50				
2	Benedict, Zion's	5 00								
3	Benedict, Bethel	3 08								
4	Beatrice	26	$17 97		$1 00	6 44	$7 83			
5	Bartlett									
6	Bartlett, Ericsson									
7	Davenport	18 96				5 35				
8	Davenport, Carlisle	2 27								
9	David City	7 18				5 00	2 25			
10	Dakota City, Emanuel		7 64	$5 00			7 11	$4 27		
11	Dakota Co., Salem	12 00				10 00				
12	Dakota Co, Homer	3 50				2 00				
13	Hastings, St. Paul's	3 00								
14	Hardy	3 65	3 70			14 00	1 00			
15	Lincoln, Grace	3 03	10 97			3 58	9 92			
16	Lincoln, First Church									
17	North Platte	15 08	11 40			7 96	7 34			
18	Nebraska City	7 74	11 96			6 34				
19	Omaha, St. Mark's	11 84					12 22			$25 00
20	Omaha, Grace	2 00	7 57			4 36	1 40			
21	Omaha, Kountze Memorial	7 50	21 28			10 00	15 78			
22	Ponca	21 23								
23	Pawnee City	11 25				10 00			$12 00	13 00
24	Pawnee Co., Zion's					3 52				
25	Pawnee Co., Steinauer	2 00				1 86				
26	Pawnee Co., Clear Creek (Kan.)	1 73								
27	Pleasant Valley					3 11				
28	Roca		6 10				4 70			1 00
29	Rising City		7 50			6 25				3 00
30	Surprise		7 55	1 00		8 00				1 00
31	Stella	28 00				19 75				
32	Sidney	2 50								
33	Tekamah, Emanuel	5 00	5 92			9 90				4 00
34	Tekamah, Grace	7 70				12 02				2 00
35	West Point	31 97				23 37				
36	Wilber	1 60				1 50				
37	Waverly	5 35		2 00		2 13	4 18			
38	Yutan	5 20	8 68	10 00		16 50	10 21			2 15
39	Rev. Samuel Aughey, D. D.	3 00								
40	Rev. Jacob A. Clutz, D. D.									
41	Rev. W. F. Eyster, D. D.									
42	Rev. J. G. Groenmiller									
43	Rev. H. W. Kuhns, D. D.	1 00				1 00				
44	Rev. A. B. Leamer									
45	Rev. J. H. Link	1 00								
46	Rev. A. T. Ludwig									
47	Rev. H. Siekmann					10 00				
48	Rev. H. A. Wolfe									
49	Mr. Otto F. L. Herse									
50	Salem, Dakota Co., Synod Collections	11 24				7 65				
	Totals	$253 99	$127 54	$18 00	$1 00	$214 49	$83 94	$4 27	$12 00	$51 15

Lincoln, Neb., September 1, 1898.

Year Ending September 1, 1898.

	Church Extension.		General Synod	Nebraska Synod	Education.			Orphans' Home	Pastors' Fund	Deaconess Board	National Lutheran Home	Totals
	Regular	Children's			Beneficiary Education	Board of Education	Midland College Library Fund					
	$4 73			$1 00	$9 45			$1 10				$17 34
	3 75				2 60			1 25				19 30
	13 86			6 16	15 41	$6 93		6 58	$6 93	$2 32	$3 47	6 93
			$1 16		1 00							96 35
				72								1 50
			14	7 52	7 20	2 00			1 76			86
			1 41									44 90
				2 45						1 17	1 76	6 82
	4 35			3 12	80	3 51			3 51	1 50	1 74	21 88
	5 00	$9 00		58 07	16 38	5 00			3 00			56 48
			1 26	44 00	1 00	2 00			1 00			56 30
	10 00			1 65	74	3 00						13 75
	2 00		1 00	1 43	18 75	3 00		5 40				19 00
	4 00	8 28	1 43	99	10 00	5 62						65 95
	6 00		1 99	95								63 38
	3 35		1 11	1 73	17 00	7 65		10 40	7 65	2 55	3 83	8 17
			1 71	57	7 10	5 67		7 65	5 67	1 89	2 84	114 35
	15 36		3 08	11	10 00	2 50		10 31	2 50	1 25	1 36	74 89
	11 34	12 91	1 71		7 00							96 89
			3 08	56	10 00	10 00		5 69	5 00	3 00	4 00	37 16
	6 00		1 43		7 00	10 96		11 02				130 82
	10 00	19 07	1 71	9 12	11 00	7 50	$4 35	7 26	3 42	1 14	1 71	83 86
	14 07	6 45	57	3 04	10 80	63			63	21	32	95 74
	12 50				1 90							6 98
	1 56		11	56	1 40							10 29
	3 17						65	1 14				3 54
									2 34	98	1 17	3 11
				2 10	5 20	2 34				1 50		31 13
		5 08	40	1 54	6 08			79				30 19
	4 15		35	4 00	7 50				5 00			36 30
	5 00		75	10 31	15 00	13 00	3 31					106 17
	10 00		1 80									2 50
				3 25	10 00	2 76		3 71	1 50	99	99	55 68
	9 54		80	2 64	6 60	2 97		5 86	2 97			51 18
	3 44		2 96	96	27 40	12 30		5 00	2 54			140 96
	2 50			1 20								7 50
	7 85		30	2 04	2 50	3 42		3 00				32 80
	8 00	9 40	57	2 40	6 50	2 96		7 53				91 33
			45	4 00			1 35					7 00
				2 00	3 00							5 00
				2 00								2 00
				5 00								5 00
				3	1 00	1 00					50	8 00
			50		95	1 00						25 00
				1 00								3 00
				3 00								4 00
			1 00	3 00	5 00							14 00
			2 50		10 00							5 00
												10 00
		8 03				25 45						52 37
	$18 81		$70 11	$32 32	154 61	301 35	141 47	$9 66	$93 70	$57 42	$19 03	$23 69	$1888 55

S. C. CROUNSE, *Treasurer.*

Advisory Members.

Rev. S. B. Barnitz, D. D., Western Secretary of the Board of Home Missions, and Rev. H. L. Yarger, D. D., Field Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, were recognized in their official capacity.

Rev. J. D. Severinghaus, D. D., Chicago, Ill., of the Wartburg Synod, was received as an advisory member.

Election of Officers.

The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year:
President—Rev. L. P. Ludden, Lincoln, Neb.
Secretary—Rev. R. A. White, Lincoln, Neb.
Statistical Secretary—Rev. H. A. Wolfe, North Platte, Neb.
Treasurer—S. C. Crounse, Lincoln, Neb.
Adjourned with prayer.

FIRST DAY—SECOND SESSION.

THURSDAY 2 P. M.

Synod opened in the usual form.

The President announced the committees.

On motion, the apportionment for Synodical Treasury was fixed at 6 cents per member.

On motion, the amount of apportionment for Beneficiary Education was fixed at 20 cents per member.

Report of the Advisory Board of Home Missions.

Your Advisory Board would submit the following statements concerning the missions connected with our Synod:

1. *Beatrice.*—The Rev. L. J. Motschman remains as pastor of this mission. They have made considerable progress during the year, and are receiving $25.00 less this year than last from the Board of Home Missions. They have no floating debts, have raised their full apportionment and have completed their church steeple, and had the money to pay for it when the work was done. They show an increase in their membership.

2. *Benedict.*—The Rev. R. A. White closed his labors as pastor November 1, 1897, but continued supplying them until in January. They were vacant

until the 12th of June, when the Rev. A. B. Leamer assumed pastoral charge. They are not receiving aid from the Board at the present time, and hence must be classed as a self-sustaining church hereafter, and thus will not appear in subsequent reports.

3. *Davenport.*—This congregation is still under the pastoral care of the Rev. E. Bollman, and this year shows continued advancement. Their indebtedness on church property is being steadily reduced, and we hope that they may become self-sustaining before another Synodical year closes. The church and Sunday-school attendance is good.

4. *David City.*—The Rev. A. C. Gearhart, D. D., supplied this congregation regularly every two weeks since our last meeting of Synod until about the first of August, when he moved from Lincoln to David City, and is now preaching for them regularly. The Sunday-school and all the services are showing a marked increase in attendance and interest since the pastor has settled at David City. They are not receiving any aid from the Board of Home Missions, and their indebtedness to the Board of Church Extension is pressing them just now.

5. *Grand Island.*—The Rev. J. S. Leamer remained as pastor of this church until December 1, 1897, when he removed to Wilber. Grand Island simply had supply services until March 6th, when the Rev. S. R. Elson assumed pastoral charge. The outlook seems so encouraging that they did not ask aid from the Board of Home Missions, and are carrying on their work as a self-sustaining church. Several new features have been added to make their services interesting, all tending to increase their church attendance. They will also be crossed from the list of missions.

6. *Hardy.*—Carrying out the plan outlined in our last report, Hardy decided shortly after Synod adjourned to assume the support of their pastor, and have the self-support date from September 1, 1897. Their work is moving along with commendable zeal and energy, and with this report they pass from the list of missions.

7. *Lincoln, Grace.*—The Board of Home Missions still lists Grace as a mission, although no aid has been received from them in the support of the pastor, Rev. Luther P. Ludden, for the past eighteen months. The attendance at Sunday-school and preaching service is constantly increasing, and the congregation have paid part of the $800.00 interest-bearing debt. They are making an effort to pay it entirely.

8. *Lincoln, St. Mark's.*—(This item is given just as it was prepared by the council of said church):

"Lincoln, First Church, formerly St. Mark's. This church has received no aid from the Board of Home Missions since November 1, 1896, six months earlier than the date mentioned in last year's report.

"Neither the Board of Home Missions nor the Board of Church Extension lending aid, the congregation has lost its church home by the foreclosure of a mortgage. The organization is still in readiness to co-operate in the establishment of an English Lutheran Church in the city of Lincoln on a right

basis and under right circumstances. Burdened and depressed by existing conditions and surroundings, this congregation awaits such suggestions from the Synod of Nebraska as the Synod's interest in and her duty to her congregations and territory may dictate."

9. *Omaha, Grace.*—It has been a year of prosperity. The church property has been improved. The lawn has been put in good condition, and brick walks have been laid. The pastor, Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, reports that the attendance upon church services, Sunday-school and prayer meetings has almost doubled that of a year ago. This mission has an encouraging future.

10. *Omaha, St. Mark's.*—The Rev. L. Groh is pastor of this mission. Their Sunday-school shows marked improvement in the past year. Weekly prayer-meetings are interesting. The church has no debt of any kind: always meets its financial obligations promptly. As before reported, the location is greatly against their advancement. They are still hopeful for better days. They do need a new building in a new location.

11. *Pawnee City.*—The work here is encouraging. The members are growing in active work and especially in the grace of giving. In connection with this mission as reported by your Board last year, the active work of the pastor, Rev. R. W. Petrea, at Steinauer, has resulted in the organization of Grace Church in that city, where they purchased the old school property for $600.00. Over $200.00 was expended in additional repairs to fit it up for a house of worship. The Board of Church Extension donated $200.00, and the rest the pastor has raised from friends in the east or Steinauer and vicinity, and the entire building prepared and ready for worship is without a dollar's debt. It is a very neat chapel, seating 150 people, in a first-class condition, and the only Protestant Church in the city, While the membership is not large, the German Lutheran element at Steinauer and immediate vicinity should make this a good congregation in the near future.

12. *Sidney.*—Active efforts have been made to try and revive our work at Sidney, and they have met with a commendable response, and your Board are now informed that the Rev. Mr. Stup will soon be located there as pastor.

13. *Wayne.*—After much correspondence, the Rev. H. J. Hapeman, former pastor of the Dakota County charge, consented to preach for this congregation regularly every two weeks, and thus relieve the Board of Home Missions from furnishing any part of the salary. He has been carrying out this plan for some months, to the great acceptance of the congregation, and we trust to the advancement of the Master's kingdom. The faithful few have been greatly encouraged.

14. *Wilber.*—The Rev. J. S. Leamer assumed pastoral charge December 1, 1897. Our church at Wilber is in fair condition. The attendance at preaching services and Sunday-school is good. The active helpers are not very numerous, and it is hard to make rapid headway, and yet the outlook is very hopeful for a strong congregation at Wilber.

NEW WORK.

Several times during the past year the city of Bennington, near Omaha, was pointed out as a good opening for a Lutheran church. The Secretary of Synod, Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, visited this point and made a preliminary canvass, and felt so encouraged that during the holiday vacation, December, 1897, he requested our student, Mr. William Kahse, to canvass this community. A careful canvass was made, and as it progressed, we found that the outlook would be better for a German than an English church, and the officers of the German Synod were thereupon requested to take such steps as were needed to occupy the field, and they have carried out the suggestions of the Advisory Board.

Your Advisory Board feels that if Synod could see its way clear to again place a Traveling Secretary in the field, much good would accrue to our Synod. We have many places like Bennington that could soon be occupied by vigorous churches.

Several of our pastors have indicated outposts that ought to be occupied, but the working up of these places, the pastors feel, is more than they can do with the multiplicity of their other labors. A little help from a traveling secretary would be of great benefit.

Your Advisory Board also feels that some of our churches that are now receiving aid from the Board of Home Missions, if we had a traveling secretary to assist in the work, might soon see their way clear to assume the support of their own pastor.

Respectfully submitted, LUTHER P. LUDDEN,
LUTHER M. KUHNS.

The report was considered item by item.

Item 8 was referred to the following committee, elected by the Synod: Rev. A. J. Turkle, Dr. H. W. Kuhns, Prof. C. G. Ellwanger, Rev. W. C. McCool and Rev. J. F. Sponseller.

Report adopted as a whole, except item 8.

The Secretary was instructed to send report of the Advisory Board of Home Missions to the Boards of Home Missions and Church Extension.

Report of Committee on Beneficiary Education.

The Committee on Beneficiary Education would report that two young men received aid from the funds of Synod during the past year. Mr. Clarence Swihart was a member of the junior class and has good reports for the work done each term. He has now entered the senior class, and desires the Synod to assist him to the amount of $125.00, which we recommend.

Mr. William Kahse was in the senior preparatory class and has entered the freshman class. He has made very commendable progress. We recommend that $100.00 be appropriated for his support.

Mr. Otto L. Herse was on our funds for one year. He has refunded to the

Treasurer of Synod some money advanced to him, and we hope he can soon repay the entire amount.

Mr. Sydney Wilson is teaching in the public schools. We recommend that the Treasurer be requested to solicit the return of the money advanced by Synod.

We recommend that twenty cents per member be apportioned to supply this fund, and that the pastors be requested to collect this money as early in the Synodical year as possible.

We further recommend that the committee be authorized to assist, as far as the funds will allow, any other worthy young men who may present themselves during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. TURKLE,
LUTHER M. KUHNS,
L. GROH,
LUTHER P. LUDDEN.

The report was adopted.

Adjourned with prayer.

FIRST DAY—EVENING SESSION.

THURSDAY, 8 P. M.

Rev. A. J. Turkle preached on Home Missions, from the text, 2 Sam. x. 12.

Rev. S. B. Barnitz, D. D., Western Secretary of the Board of Home Missions, spoke on the same subject.

Collections for Home Missions, $7.25.

SECOND DAY—FIRST SESSION.

FRIDAY, 9 A. M.

Synod opened in usual form.

Time and Place for Next Convention of Synod.

Beatrice was selected as the place for holding the next convention of Synod, and the time was fixed for the second Wednesday in September.

Report of Committee on Minutes of North Platte Conference.

Your Committee on Minutes of North Platte Conference finds the following under date of October 15, 1897, that deserves the attention of Synod:

On motion of L. M. Kuhns, the North Platte Conference recommends to

the Nebraska Synod the propriety of taking action with reference to making a Harvest Home service a practice in our church. We recommend that the third Sunday in September be known as Harvest Home Day in Nebraska congregations.

Respectfully submitted,

J. S. LEAMER,
C. J. RINGER,
A. W. EASTERDAY.

Report was adopted.

On motion, the Synod proceeded to consider the proposed amendment to the Constitution of Synod, striking out Section 4 of Article XIV, and making Section 5 Section 4.

Amendment lost.

Report of Committee on Minutes of South Platte Conference.

Your Committee on Minutes of South Platte Conference have examined the same, and find that an interesting session of this Conference was held in Pawnee City, April 19–21, 1898. The only matter that seems to demand the attention of Synod is a resolution petitioning Synod to redistrict the Conference, so that all our churches be in Conference bounds.

Your Committee recommends that Synod give such attention to the matter as it merits.

Respectfully submitted,

S. M. LESHER,
I. N. AUGUSTINE.

On motion, the following committee to redistrict the Conferences was appointed: L. J. Motschman, J. F. Cressler, I. N. Augustine.

Adjourned with prayer.

SECOND DAY—SECOND SESSION.

FRIDAY, 2 P. M.

Synod opened in usual form.

Report of Committee to Redistrict Conferences.

The Committee appointed to offer a recommendation with reference to what disposition should be made of the churches now in existence in the Western Conference, would recommend that the Grand Island, North Platte and Sidney churches be requested to consider themselves a part of the North Platte Conference until such time as it may be deemed wise to have their own Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

J. F. CRESSLER,
L. J. MOTSCHMAN,
I. N. AUGUSTINE.

Report adopted.

Report of Committee on Apportionment.

	Number of Members ...	General Synod.	Synodical Treasury	Board of Education ...	Beneficiary Education ..	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions	Church Extension ...	Pastors' Fund..	Deacons Board	Home for the Aged	Totals .....
Per member	.....	$0 02	$0 06	$0 09	$0 20	$0 24	$0 19	$0 19	$0 09	$0 04	$0 05	$1 17
Auburn	75	1 50	4 50	6 75	15 00	18 00	14 25	14 25	6 75	3 00	3 75	87 75
Benedict, Zion	65	1 30	3 90	5 85	13 00	15 60	12 35	12 35	5 85	2 60	3 25	76 05
Benedict, Bethel	35	70	2 10	3 15	7 00	8 40	6 65	6 65	3 15	1 40	1 75	40 95
Beatrice	87	1 75	5 20	7 85	17 40	20 90	16 55	16 55	7 85	3 50	4 35	101 90
Bartlett												
Bartlett, Ericsson	23	45	1 40	2 05	4 60	5 50	4 37	4 35	2 05	90	1 15	26 90
Bartlett, Wolbach												
Davenport	96	1 90	5 75	8 65	19 20	23 05	18 25	18 25	8 65	3 85	4 80	112 30
Davenport, Carlisle, St. Paul's	19	40	1 15	1 70	3 80	4 55	3 60	3 60	1 70	75	95	22 25
David City	33	65	2 00	2 95	6 60	7 90	6 25	6 25	2 95	1 30	1 65	38 60
Dakota City, Emanuel	30	60	1 80	2 70	6 00	7 20	5 70	5 70	2 70	1 20	1 50	35 10
Dakota City, Salem	75	1 50	4 50	6 75	15 00	18 00	14 25	14 25	6 75	3 00	3 75	87 75
Dakota City, St. Paul's	25	50	1 50	2 25	5 00	6 00	4 75	4 75	2 25	1 00	1 25	29 25
Grand Island	48	95	2 90	4 30	9 60	11 50	9 10	9 10	4 30	1 90	2 40	56 15
Hastings, St. Paul's	76	1 50	4 55	6 85	15 20	18 25	14 45	14 45	6 85	3 05	3 80	88 90
Hastings, St. Paul's	30	60	1 80	2 70	6 00	7 20	5 70	5 70	2 70	1 20	1 50	35 10
Hardy	105	2 10	6 30	9 45	21 00	25 20	19 95	19 95	9 45	4 20	5 25	122 85
Lincoln, Grace	98	1 95	5 90	8 80	19 60	33 50	18 60	18 60	8 80	3 90	4 90	114 65
Lincoln, First Church	59	1 20	3 55	5 30	11 80	14 15	11 20	11 20	5 30	2 35	2 95	69 05
North Platte	91	1 80	5 45	8 20	18 20	21 85	17 30	17 30	8 20	3 65	4 55	106 45
Nebraska City	61	1 20	3 65	5 50	12 20	14 65	11 60	11 60	5 50	2 45	3 05	71 35
Omaha, St. Mark's	76	1 50	4 55	6 85	15 20	18 25	14 45	14 45	6 85	3 05	3 80	88 90

Report of Committee on Apportionment.—*Concluded.*

	Number of Members	General Synod.	Synodical Treasury	Board of Education	Beneficiary Education	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions	Church Extension	Pastors' Fund	Deaconess Board	Home for the Aged	Totals
Per member		$0 02	$0 06	$0 09	$0 20	$0 24	10 19	$0 19	$0 09	$0 04	$0 05	$1 17
Omaha, Grace	79	1 60	4 75	7 10	15 80	18 95	15 00	15 00	7 10	3 15	3 95	92 45
Omaha, Kountze Memorial	275	5 50	16 50	24 75	55 00	66 00	52 25	52 25	24 75	11 00	13 75	311 75
Ponca	98	1 95	5 90	8 80	19 60	23 50	18 60	18 60	8 80	3 90	4 90	114 65
Pawnee City	35	70	2 10	3 15	7 00	8 40	6 65	6 65	3 15	1 40	1 75	40 95
Pawnee City, Zion	10	20	60	90	2 00	2 40	1 90	1 90	90	40	50	11 70
Pleasant Valley	45	90	2 70	4 05	9 00	10 80	8 55	8 55	4 05	1 80	2 25	52 65
Roca, Zion's	32	65	1 90	2 90	6 40	7 70	6 10	6 10	2 90	1 30	1 60	37 45
Steinauer	4	8	25	35	80	95	75	75	35	16	20	4 70
Surprise	47	95	2 80	4 25	9 40	11 30	8 95	8 95	4 23	1 90	2 35	55 00
Rising City	26	50	1 55	2 35	5 20	6 25	4 95	4 95	2 35	1 05	1 30	30 40
Stella, Trinity	110	2 20	6 60	9 90	22 00	26 40	20 90	20 90	9 90	4 40	5 50	128 70
Sidney	10	20	60	90	2 00	2 40	1 90	1 90	90	40	50	11 70
Tekamah, Emanuel	51	1 00	3 05	4 60	10 20	12 25	9 70	9 70	4 60	2 05	2 55	59 65
Tekamah, Grace	33	65	2 00	2 95	6 60	7 90	6 25	6 25	2 95	1 30	1 65	38 60
Wayne, St. Paul's	55	1 10	3 30	4 95	11 00	13 20	10 45	10 45	4 95	2 20	2 75	64 35
West Point	137	2 75	8 20	12 35	27 40	32 90	26 05	26 05	12 35	5 50	6 85	160 30
Wilber	27	55	1 60	2 45	5 40	6 50	5 15	5 15	2 45	1 10	1 35	31 60
Waverly	41	80	2 45	3 70	8 20	9 85	7 80	7 80	3 70	1 65	2 05	48 00
Yutan, Zion	30	60	1 80	2 70	6 00	7 20	5 70	5 70	2 70	1 20	1 50	35 10
	2362											

Respectfully submitted, EDWIN BOLLMAN, H. ZIMMERMAN.

Report of Committee on Minutes of Last Convention.

Your Committee respectfully report that they have examined the Minutes of Last Year's Synod, and find nothing demanding the attention of Synod except what has already been brought to Synod's attention.

Respectfully submitted,

C. J. RINGER,
A. B. LEAMER,
J. F. SPONSELLER.

Report adopted.

Dr. S. B. Barnitz was heard on behalf of Home Missions.

Report of Auditing Committee.

We, your committee to audit the Treasurer's books, accounts and documents, beg leave to submit the following:

1. We have carefully examined the books and vouchers pertaining to the Treasurer's office and find all correct.

2. We commend the method and neatness with which the books have been kept.

3. We heartily commend the interest manifested by our Treasurer in sending out statements of the Synod's needs, thus bringing the funds promptly into the Treasury.

Respectfully submitted,

C. G. ELLWANGER,
M. D. WILLERT.

Report adopted.

Rev. H. L. Yarger, D. D., Field Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, was heard on Church Extension work.

Report on State of Religion.

The Committee on the State of Religion, in attempting to fulfill the duty assigned them, find their only data of information in the very brief statements of the pastors reporting.

Some of these have occupied their present fields of labor for only a few months of the past Synodical year. At best, therefore, we can present only a general and imperfect view of the State of Religion within the bounds of Synod in its objective manifestations. It is the province only of the Omniscient to say to each and all the churches, "I know thy works," in its fullest sense. The records of eternity can alone reveal the true State of Religion either in individual hearts or among collective bodies of Christian believers. What real progress has been made in the divine life, what lasting and saving impressions have resulted from the faithful preaching of the Word of God and the administration of the Holy Sacraments, only He can tell to whom all hearts are open. And yet it is our Lord's own rule for human judgment—"Ye shall know them by their fruits," and in the application of that rule to the review of the history of our churches during the past year as reported by their pastors in merest outline, we may gain some partial knowledge of the State of Religion among them.

It is gratifying to observe that prayer-meetings continue to be regularly held among our churches, and in some instances the attendance is reported to be large. As the spirit of prayer is the measure of a healthy, spiritual life, its prevalence in all its forms, whether social, family or private, must always be hailed as a most encouraging omen.

All the reports speak of the regular observance at stated periods of the Lord's Supper, the sacrament of spiritual nutrition and growth.

Baptism, catechetical instruction, Sunday-schools, Young People's Societies for the promotion of Christian growth and usefulness, are all intimately related to that care for religious welfare and nurture of the young so strongly taught by God's Word, and so peculiarly blended with our Lutheran system of church life and duty. It is pleasing to learn from the pastors' reports that this part of the work of the Church and its ministry has received careful attention as a general rule. A few report indifference to catechetical instruction among their people. No more important duty devolves upon the pastors of such churches than the persistent efforts to remove prejudice and enlighten ignorance respecting the careful indoctrination of the children of the church in the knowledge of God's Word, and their spiritual preparation for the confirmation of baptismal vows.

With few exceptions, the pastors report growing missionary interest and activity in their churches.

The reports on the subject of beneficence show a small increase in the total amount contributed to the Boards of the Church and to general benevolence. We have not the data of information as to the amount contributed for the regular expenses of the churches themselves, but some of the pastors speak in grateful terms of relief from past pecuniary embarrassment of debt.

It is, perhaps, a fact unprecedented in the history of this Synod that all vacancies with a single exception are now supplied.

With humiliation for past imperfections, with gratitude for the measure of good attained, with purposes of increased devotion, with earnest prayer for the Divine blessing, it becomes the churches and pastors to enter upon the labors and duties of the year that now lies before them.

Respectfully submitted,

W. F. EYSTER,
J. G. GROENMILLER,
H. ZIMMERMAN.

Report adopted.

The Executive Council made a verbal report that only one formal meeting had been held, to approve of the Treasurer's bond.

Report of Committee on President's Report.

1. We desire to express our appreciation of the activity of the President in supplying the vacancies within our bounds, and to congratulate Synod upon the fact that it only has one vacancy.

2. On page 21 of the Minutes of Synod for 1897 will be found the Report

of the Committee on the action of the West Pennsylvania Synod in dismissing Rev. W. G. Gettle to this Synod without his request. Rev. W. G. Gettle now asks to be received as a member of this body, and we advise the approval of the President's recommendation that he be received and the Secretary be instructed to enroll his name.

3. The attention of the brethren should be called to Article IV., Section 10, of the Constitution of Synod, which makes it the "duty of a pastor when he resigns his charge, accepts a call in the bounds of this or any other Synod, organizes a new congregation, a corner-stone is laid, or a church consecrated, to report the same immediately to the President of Synod." Ministerial courtesy and synodical comity require that the President of Synod should not be made dependent upon reports in the church papers for information about important events occuring in our midst, and hereafter the neglect of this duty should receive synodical censure.

Respectfully submitted,

LUTHER M. KUHNS,
E. BOLLMAN,
J. E. WEBER.

Report adopted.

On motion, Rev. W. G. Gettle was received as a member of this Synod and his name was enrolled.

Report of Committee on Traveling Secretary.

Mr. President and Brethren: On the 26th of October, 1893, Rev. C. Huber, who had been Traveling Secretary ever since Synod inaugurated this permanent state mission work at Rising in 1887, resigned. In the financial settlement made at that time the committee found they were in arrears $753.53 for salary and current expenses. Of this amount $418.48 was salary due Rev. C. Huber. During the financial depression no special effort was made to reduce the indebtedness. But ever since 1893 your committee on Traveling Secretary has been quietly working to liquidate the debt. At the last meeting of Synod at Salem your committee was still in arrears to Rev. C. Huber for service as Traveling Secretary $159.50. We are able to come before Synod this year with all our debts paid.

The following is the

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Sept. 1, 1897, balance on hand		$42	40	
Received for house rent, including back rent		255	00	
Total				$297 40
April 15, 1896, paid county tax 1 year	$14	91		
Aug. 10, 1898, Rev. C. Huber, balance on salary	109	90		
Paid during year, sundry repairs	32	75		
Total	$157	56	157	56
Leaving a balance on hand of			$139	84

Rev. C. Huber very kindly donated $50.00 on his back salary, and this with the $109.90 paid to him leaves the Committee entirely out of debt.

The house at 1819 Pinkney St., Omaha, is in fairly good condition, but it will have to be painted during the coming year.

Respectfully yours, M. W. SWAIN, *Treasurer.*

This report was examined by the Auditing Committee, who report as follows:

Your Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's Report presented by Mr. M. W. Swain, would respectfully report that we have carefully performed our duties, and report the same correct. We would also inform you that we have filed the report, receipts, etc., in the archives of the Committee in Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church.

Very respectfully submitted, A. J. TURKLE,
L. GROH.

It is now the intention of your Committee to put a Traveling Secretary in the field as soon as a sufficient sum of money has been raised to warrant them in assuming his support and incurring the current expense of the work.

As the terms of office of Rev. Luther M. Kuhns and Messrs. Robert Weidensall and G. H. Meyers expire with this year, it becomes necessary for Synod to appoint a committee to nominate three members of this committee besides the President of Synod, who is *ex-officio* a member of this committee, whose term of office shall be three years.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. *Resolved*, That with humble hearts we return thanks to God for the blessings that have attended this work.

2. *Resolved*, That a vote of thanks be tendered Rev. C. Huber, in appreciation of his patient waiting and generous donation to salary due him.

3. *Resolved*, That the Committee be authorized to secure at least $1200 for the work of the next year, commencing January 1, 1899, and that all expenses of the Committee on Traveling Secretary be paid out of the treasury of that Committee, and that the salary of the Secretary shall not exceed $1,000, with the house.

On behalf of the Committee, LUTHER M. KUHNS,
Sec'y of Com. on Traveling Secretary.

Report adopted, and recommendations considered item by item.

Report adopted as a whole.

Report of Obituary Committee.

Your Committee reports the following: God in His wise Providence has removed from our midst, to their home above, Sister C. J. Kuhns, beloved wife of Rev. H. W. Kuhns, D. D., Omaha, Neb., and Sophia V. Gearhart, beloved wife of Rev. A. C. Gearhart, D. D., now of David City; therefore,

Resolved, That we, the members of Nebraska Synod, cheerfully and

humbly bow in submission to the will of God, thanking Him for the useful and faithful lives of these our sisters, while we also gratefully remember their efficient and oftimes self-denying services, especially in their connection with the early and frontier missionary work of our church and state.

Resolved, That we tender our sincere sympathy to the bereaved husbands and families.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. TURKLE,
G. H. ALBRIGHT,
L. GROH.

Report adopted by rising vote, and while standing the Rev. H. L. Yarger, D. D., led in prayer.

Report of Examining Committee.

Your Examining Committee would respectfully report that they have had but one applicant, the licentiate of this Synod, Rev. Angus B. Leamer. He has completed the course in the Western Theological Seminary. The examination has been creditable and your committee recommend that he be ordained according to the usages and custom of our Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

H. W. KUHNS,
L. GROH,
W. F. EYSTER,
J. G. GROENMILLER,
W. C. McCOOL.

Report adopted.

SECOND DAY—EVENING SERVICE.

FRIDAY 8 P. M.

Rev. W. C. McCool and Rev. H. L. Yarger, D. D., spoke on the subject of Church Extension.

Collection for Church Extension, $4.78.

THIRD DAY—FIRST SESSION.

SATURDAY 9 A. M.

Synod opened in usual form.

The bill of Rev. H. A. Wolfe of $3.38 for postage and binding of minutes was allowed.

The Treasurer was instructed to have stationery printed for use of the officers of the Synod, and draw on the Treasury of the Synod for the amount.

Report of Committee on Item 8 of Report of Advisory Board of Home Missions.

Whereas your Committee have thoroughly investigated the condition of the Lutheran church at Lincoln, Nebraska, and find that the Board of Home Missions has ceased to render aid since 1896, and decline to further support the work in that city unless the Lutheran element is organized into one congregation.

Therefore your Committee recommends that the First Lutheran church, formerly St. Mark's, adopt the last basis of agreement presented by the Boards of Home Missions and Church Extension, which has already been adopted by Grace Church; except that part of Article three (3), which preceeds the sentence, "That they the two congregations," &c., also Articles nine (9), ten (10) and eleven (11).

We further recommend that a committee of three ordained ministers be appointed by Synod to go to Lincoln, Nebraska, and assist in effecting said organization.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. TURKLE,
H. W. KUHNS,
J. F. SPONSELLER,
W. C. McCOOL,
C. G. ELLWANGER.

The report was considered item by item and adopted as a whole.

The following committee was appointed by the Synod in accordance with the foregoing report: Revs. A. J. Turkle, W. C. McCool and J. F. Sponseller.

Report of Committee on Excuses.

Your Committee respectfully report as follows:

Letters from the following brethren we have carefully read, and ask that they be excused from this meeting of Synod. Revs. J. A. Clutz. D. D., S. L. Aughey, LL. D., J. H. Link, H. J. Hapeman, W. G. Gettle, E. Roglin, W. C. Eckhart, D. Z. Foulk, G. A. Neeff, Ph. D., B. Sickel. Also the following lay members: Henry Ritzen, Wm. Wilke, W. H. Pomeroy, W. E. Krause.

Respectfully submitted,

W. DIEFFENBACH,
MAX F. SCHULZ.

Report of Committee to Nominate Traveling Secretary Committee.

We beg leave to put in nomination the following:

Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, Mr. Robert Weidensall and Mr. S. P. Mikesell.

Respectfully submitted,

R. W. PETREA,
J. M. LENTZ,
S. C. CROUNSE.

Report adopted.

The Synod proceeded to elect delegates to the General Synod, resulting as follows:

Delegates to General Synod.

CLERICAL.

Principals.	*Alternates.*
Rev. J. A. Clutz, D. D.,	Rev. H. A. Wolfe,
Rev. L. P. Ludden,	Rev. J. S. Leamer,
Rev. W. A. Lipe,	Rev. J. F. Sponseller,
Rev. L. Groh,	Rev. A. J. Turkle,
Rev. L. M. Kuhns,	Rev. C. J. Ringer.

LAY.

Principals.	*Alternates.*
Prof. C. G. Ellwanger,	S. C. Crounse,
Charles Neidhart,	H. S. Wingert,
Jonathan Reitz,	H. J. Penfold,
M. D. Willert,	O. P. Goodman,
E. A. Carey.	Wm. Ebright.

Committee on Leave of Absence.

Your Committee on Leave of Absence report that the following brethren were excused: Clerical, G. H. Albright, A. C. Gearhart, J. N. Zimmer; Laymen, J. J. Stein, M. D. Willert, C. W. Jamison, A. W. Easterday, Edward Snyder.

Respectfully submitted, W. A. LIPE.

Report adopted.

Rev. W. A. Lipe was elected visitor to Midland College.

Rev. L. Groh was elected delegate to the German Nebraska Synod for 1899.

Rev. E. Bollman resigned as delegate to the German Nebraska Synod for 1898, and Rev. L. Groh was elected in his place.

THIRD DAY—SECOND SESSION.

SATURDAY, 9 A. M.

Synod opened in usual form.

Report of Visitor to Midland College.

The undersigned performed his duty as visitor to Midland College in accordance with your instructions. I visited them twice during the collegiate year of 1897 and 1898, and found the work progressing in a very satisfactory

manner. Teachers and scholars seem to be vying with each other in the building up of this institution of the church. Among the students the school spirit seemed to be very strong, and harmony prevailed in all parts of the faculty, so far as I could observe or learn by inquiry. It is Christian education in a healthful location at small expense. With the hearty co-operation of our people, Midland College will soon have the attendance that the excellent work they are doing merits. As a result the church at large will reap material benefits therefrom.

I note with pleasure also the advance made in the Western Theological Seminary. Their fifth year closed with honor and credit to all in any way connected with the Seminary. Already our western churches are beginning to show the importance of educating men on the territory for the field. I was present commencement week during part of the exercises. They were indeed a credit to the college and to the Seminary, and show that both of the institutions are kept abreast of the times in the manner and method of instruction.

Respectfully submitted, LUTHER P. LUDDEN.

Report adopted.

The following committee on increasing the endowment of Midland College was appointed: Revs. S. M. Lesher, H. Zimmerman, H. A. Wolfe.

Report of Committee on Resolutions.

Your Committee would respectfully submit the following:

1. *Resolved*, That we feel grateful to our Heavenly Father for the hopeful state of the affairs of Synod.

2. *Resolved*, That the Secretary of Synod be instructed to have 600 copies of our Minutes printed for distribution, at a cost not exceeding $75.00, including delivery.

3. *Resolved*, That the thanks of Synod are hereby tendered to the *pastor loci*, members of the congregation and kind friends, for the generous and plesant entertainment of this body. also to the city press for courtesies, and to the choir of the church for excellent music rendered.

4. *Resolved*, That Synod recommends that every charge send a lay delegate to Synodical Convention and pay both his and the pastor's expenses in attending Synod.

5. *Resolved*, That we hereby express our confidence in the honesty and wisdom of the Secretaries and Members of our Boards, and that we disapprove of the insinuations to the contrary which have been circulated by papers bearing the Lutheran name.

6. *Whereas*, We have affirmed our position on Sabbath observance in harmony with the teaching of Lutheran theology, and holding the Third Commandment of present binding force and obligation;

Resolved, That we, as a church, express our condemnation of the opening of the gates of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition, transacting of legal and legislative

business upon the Lord's day, and the secularizing of the day designed for rest, worship, and all similar pursuits calculated to detract from the worship and service of God, and that the Secretary forward a copy of this resolution to the authorities of the Exposition.

7. *Resolved*, That we, as a Synod, express our appreciation of the fitting recognition of God's overruling Providence by the President of the United States in our war with Spain; and,

8. *Resolved*, That we, as a Synod, return our thanks to Almighty God for the return of peace.

9. *Whereas*, We regard "Christian Science," so called, unchristian and dangerous; therefore,

Resolved, That Synod disapproves of any of its ministers participating in any Christian Science meeting, as inconsistent with his ordination vows and rendering himself liable to charges for suspension from the ministry.

10. *Resolved*, That we, as a Synod, censure the making of any statements upon the floor of Synod reflecting upon the integrity of the body and bringing it into disrepute.

Respectfully submitted,

L. J. MOTSCHMAN,
J. J. STEIN,
J. F. CRESSLER.

The report was adopted item by item, and as a whole.

PREPARATORY SERVICE.

SATURDAY, 3 P. M.

The Preparatory Sermon, according to the appointment of Synod, was preached by Rev. E. Bollman, from the text: Eccl. viii. 12.

Report of Committee on Letters and Papers.

Your Committee on Communications have placed in their hands a communication from Dr. H. C. Haithcox, Secretary of the Board of Education, and the report of Rev. A. T. Ludwig, the delegate appointed by the President of Synod to attend the Jubilee on the 150th Anniversary of the Pennsylvania Ministerium.

We would recommend—

1. That attention of Synod be called to Dr. Haithcox's appeal by the reading of his letter.

2. That we express our pleasure and gratitude at the splendid progress and honorable record of the Pennsylvania Ministerium, as indicated by the report made by our delegate to the Jubilee held in Philadelphia.

Respectfully submitted,

W. C. McCOOL,
S. R. ELSON.

Report adopted.

No further business appearing, the minutes were read in full and formally approved.

The following motion was adopted: That Synod finally adjourn at the close of the ordination services Sunday evening.

THIRD DAY—EVENING SESSION.

SATURDAY, 8 P. M.

Rev. L. Groh spoke on Foreign Missions and Rev. J. S. Leamer spoke on Education.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

Methodist Church—11 a. m., Rev. W. A. Lipe; 8 p. m., Rev. L. Groh.

Congregational Church—11 a. m., Rev. J. S. Leamer; 8 p. m., Rev. S. M. Lesher.

Cumberland Presbyterian Church—11 a. m., Rev. W. C. McCool; 8 p. m., Rev. H. Zimmerman.

Baptist Church—8 p. m., Rev. L. M. Kuhns.

German Evangelical Church—8 p. m., Rev. J. D. Severinghaus, D. D.

Christian Church—11 a. m., Rev. W. F. Eyster, D. D.; 8 p. m., Rev. C. J. Ringer.

First Lutheran Church—9:45 a. m., Sunday-school. 11 a. m. Communion Sermon, Rev. J. D. Severinghaus, D. D. 3 p. m., Union Sunday-school Rally and Song Service, addressed by several ministers of the Synod. 7 p. m., Young People's Meeting, addressed by Revs. W. A. Lipe and H. A. Wolfe. 8 p. m., Ordination Sermon, Rev. W. Dieffenbach.

At the conclusion of the Ordination Sermon, Rev. Angus Blair Leamer, a licentiate of the Nebraska Synod, was ordained to the ministry according to the usages of our church.

The President declared Synod formally adjourned, to meet according to the action of Synod in Beatrice, Nebraska, the second Wednesday evening of September, 1899.

R. A. WHITE, *Secretary.*

PAROCHIAL REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA SYNOD.

Pastors' Names and Addresses.	Congregations, Names of.	Parochial.														Finances.			Index No. See line with corresponding No. on page below.
		Churches.	Stations.	Prayer Meetings.	Students for Ministry.	Catechumens.	Losses. Death.	Losses. Certificate.	Losses. Other Losses.	Accessions. Infant Baptisms.	Accessions. Adult Baptisms.	Accessions. Confirmations.	Accessions. Certificate.	Accessions. Restoration.	Communicant Membership.	Estimated Value of Church Property.	Indebtedness.	Local Expenses for all Objects.	
G. H. Albright, Lincoln	Roca, Zion's	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	4	1	..	32	$200 00	.....	$314 24	1
I. N. Augustine, Grand Island	Arlesson	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	.....	.....	97 61	2
Edwin Bollman, Davenport	Davenport, Christ's.	1	..	1	..	8	2	4	2	2	2	5	1	..	96	3000 00	$1000 00	940 00	3
	Carlisle, St. Paul	1	1	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	.....	.....	75 00	4
Jacob A. Clutz, D. D	Pres. Midland Col.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....	.....	.....	5
J. F. Cressler, Tekamah, Burt Co	Emanuel	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	2	..	51	1800 00	22 00	334 35	6
	Grace	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	1000 00	.....	256 00	7
W. Dieffenbach, South Auburn.	St. Paul's	1	..	1	..	9	..	2	..	1	2	10	2	..	15	3500 00	.....	509 80	8
C. A. Fritze, Hastings, Adams Co	St. Paul's	1	1	*1	..	29	18	1	..	83	1	2	2	..	192	1500 00	†650 00	460 00	9
A. C. Gearhart	Trinity	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	6	..	..	3	..	33	2 00 00	250 00	245 00	10
L. Grob, Omaha	St. Mark's	1	..	2	..	15	..	3	8	10	..	8	4	..	76	2500 00	.....	900 00	11
H. W. Kuhns, D. D., No. 2133 Franklin Street, Omaha	No charge	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	1	..	..	..	..	.....	.....	.....	12
Luther M. Kuhns, 2569 Pierce St., Omaha	Grace	1	..	1	..	14	..	..	..	8	1	..	3	..	79	20000 00	3000 00	1135 08	13
A. B. Leamer, Benedict	Zion's	1	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	1	..	65	300 00	.....	318 25	14
	Bethel	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	35	180 00	.....	210 00	15
J. S. Leamer, Wilber	First Luth.	1	1	1	..	25	1	..	2	3	6	7	1	2	27	2000 00	145 00	800 00	16
J. Nelson Lentz, Rising City	Rising City, 1st Eng.	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	600 00	600 00	294 07	17
	Surprise, Zion	1	..	..	..	10	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	47	2500 00	300 00	386 00	18
S. Martin Lesher	Emanuel	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	9	7	..	..	..	..	30	1500 00	.....	195 10	19
	Salem	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	75	4000 00	.....	320 27	20
	St. Paul's	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	4	3	1	1	..	25	1000 00	.....	100 50	21
W. A. Lipe, Ponca	Salem	1	1	3	..	32	..	..	..	2	4	18	6	..	98	8000 00	1000 00	988 59	22
Luther P. Ludden, Lincoln	Grace	1	..	3	..	13	1	4	5	7	2	10	1	..	98	5000 00	4000 00	794 22	23

* Bible Lesson. † Extension Board.

PAROCHIAL REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA SYNOD.—*Continued.*

PAROCHIAL REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA SYNOD.—*Continued.*

	SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.					Y. P. SOCIETIES.			BENEVOLENCE.														
				Contributions.			Contributions.																
Index Number.	Number of Schools.	Officers and Teachers.	Scholars.	For Support of School and Local Objects.	For Benevolence.	Number of Members, Including Juniors.	For Local Objects.	For Benevolence.	General Synod.	Synodical Treasury.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Church Extension.	Board of Education.	Beneficiary Education.	Woman's Missionary Society.	Pastors' Fund.	Orphans' Home.	Deaconess Board.	Home for the Aged.	External Objects.	Total Benevolence.	Grand Total.
1	1	11	50	$44 14	$17 80	....	....	......	$0 40	$2 10	$6 10	$5 70	$5 00	$2 34	$5 20	$22 55	$2 34	.....	$0 78	$1 17	$6 30	$59 98	$374 22
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7	1	8	44	16 00	23 18	37	40 00	......	50	2 64	7 70	14 02	5 94	2 97	6 60	......	2 97	5 86	99	1 99	......	52 18	308 18
8	1	17	93	40 00	5 11	39	31 00	......	1 00	1 00	8 11	3 50	4 73	......	......	......	.....	......	......	......	......	18 34	388 14
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11	1	17	135	50 00	30 00	25	5 00	25 00	1 11	5 92	12 22	25 00	13 32	6 66	14 80	.....	2 50	10 00	1 25	......	4 20	96 98	996 98
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14	1	16	85	24 00	....	16	12 00	......	1 13	6 00	......	......	3 75	......	4 15	......	......	1 10	......	......	......	16 13	334 38
15	1	8	60	15 00	....	15	....	......	53	2 80	2 65	......	2 58	......	......	......	......	1 25	......	......	......	9 81	219 81
16	1	12	130	60 00	2 50	12	....	......	30	1 60	1 60	1 50	2 50	......	......	......	......	......	......	......	......	7 50	807 50
17	1	9	35	22 60	8 35	....	....	.....	35	1 54	7 50	9 25	4 15	......	6 00	33 60	......	70	70	......	......	63 79	357 86
18	1	10	40	17 00	15 00	35	....	......	75	4 00	7 55	10 00	5 00	......	7 50	......	......	......	1 50	......	1 75	38 05	424 05
19	1	10	85	29 81	23 75	40	2 10	9 87	59	3 12	12 64	11 38	9 00	3 51	7 80	15 25	3 51	......	1 17	1 76	165 00	234 63	429 83
20	1	10	58	18 50	....	105	50 85	8 06	1 26	5 50	12 00	10 00	10 00	5 00	10 00	......	3 00	......	1 50	1 74	......	60 00	440 27
21	..	..	...	....	....	....	....	......	44	1 07	3 50	2 00	2 00	2 00	1 74	......	1 00	......	......	......	......	13 75	114 30
22	1	18	130	36 18	17 52	104	57 65	2 07	1 71	9 12	21 23	......	20 52	10 26	10 00	14 10	......	11 02	......	......	26 00	123 96	1092 35
23	1	14	120	65 61	29 17	53	62 00	10 00	1 43	5 00	19 00	13 50	18 83	5 62	10 00	34 00	......	......	......	......	27 00	126 38	980 60

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